

MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH
Office of Information Systems
OFFICIAL MEMORANDUM

September 30, 2003

TO: All Batch Providers

FROM: Gary Lyndaker, Chief Information Officer

SUBJECT: HIPAA Transaction Contingency

As you know, the Department of Mental Health is required to be able to accept health care claims after October 16, 2003 in standard HIPAA formats. However, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has recognized the importance of maintaining uninterrupted flow of payments to providers. Therefore, CMS is allowing HIPAA covered entities to continue to do business using non-standard transactions, for a limited period of time. In order to do so, we are required to document that decision and our plans for achieving compliance.

DMH has finalized our 837P Companion Document and we expect few or no changes to it in the next few months. The document is published on the DMH public website at:

<http://www.dmh.mo.gov/cimor/docs/hipaatransactions.pdf>

If your agency is not ready to send HIPAA compliant 837P encounter transactions on October 16, 2003, DMH is prepared to continue to accept the current POS batch transactions, for a limited period of time. **However, in order comply with HIPAA documentation requirements, you must send a letter requesting permission to continue sending the current batch transactions, to be received by DMH by October 16, 2003,** to the attention of:

**Gary Lyndaker
Department of Mental Health-OIS
1706 E Elm Street, PO Box 687
Jefferson City, Missouri, 65101**

The letter must contain the following information:

- A request to continue to send the current, non-HIPAA compliant POS batch transactions to DMH;

- A statement of your current status and progress in being able to send the HIPAA compliant 837P transactions;
- The date you began, or expect to begin, testing with DMH on the transmission of the 837P transactions;
- The date you expect to be able to send production 837P transactions to DMH.

DMH intends to honor all such requests and is ready to begin testing with any providers who currently batch POS transactions to DMH. To begin testing, please contact the DMH-OIS Customer Support Center at 888-601-4779.

After October 16, we will not be able to process the current POS batch transactions if we have not received this letter from your organization.